

REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and again examine the claims as amended in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Claims 2-9, 11, 12, 15-20 and 22-30 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 10, 13, 14 and 21 are cancelled by this amendment. Claims 11, 18, 20 and 26 were indicated as being allowed in the Office Action dated July 6, 2005. Claims 1 – 10, 12 –17, 19, 21-25 and 27-30 are rejected. Claims 2, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18-20, 22-27, 19 and 30 are amended herein. No new claims are being added by this paper.

In accordance with the revised provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c) as enacted on July 30, 2003, a marked up version of the amended claims is provided above. Also attached in an Appendix are replacement sheets for the figures.

In the Office Action dated July 6, 2005, the Examiner objected to Claims 11, 18, 20, 26 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these Claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Applicants have re-written Claims 11, 18, 20, 26 as to include the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Thus, Claims 11, 18, 20, 26 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended all remaining dependent claims (i.e. Claims 2-9, 12, 15-17, 19, 22-25 and 27-30) to depend from respective ones of the now allowable independent Claims 11, 18, 20, 26.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicants submit that claims 2-9, 11, 12, 15-20, 22-30 and the entire case are in condition for allowance and should be sent to issue and such action is respectfully requested.

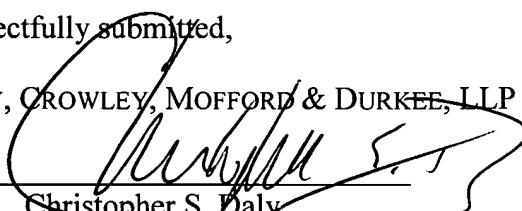
Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since this amendment places the application in condition for allowance or in better form for consideration on appeal by materially reducing the number of issues on appeal.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

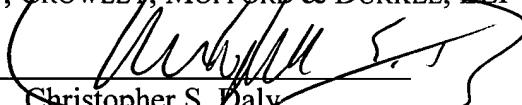
The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845, including but not limited to, any charges for extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Dated: 7 Dec 05

Respectfully submitted,

  
DALY, CROWLEY, MOFFORD & DURKEE, LLP

By:

  
Christopher S. Daly

Reg. No. 37,303

Attorney for Applicant(s)

354A Turnpike Street - Suite 301A

Canton, MA 02021-2714

Tel.: (781) 401-9988, Ext. 11

Fax: (781) 401-9966

*csd@dc-m.com*

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